

INTIMATIONS.

HONGKONG TRADING COMPANY, LIMITED.
(GENTLEMEN'S OUTFITTING DEPARTMENT.)

REASONABLE GOODS. Just to hand.

Plain Coloured and Striped Lisle Socks.

Maintained Cashmere, Coloured Cashmere, and Grey Striped CASHMERE-SOCKS.

Balbriggan, Gauze, and Summer MERINO VESTS.

WASHING SCARVES AND TIES.

BATH BLANKETS, BATH GOWNS, BATH BRUSHES.

BATHING DRAWS & COSTUMES.

GILBERT'S PRICKLY HEAT SOAP.

The only remedy for prickly heat.

HONGKONG TRADING CO., Ltd.

113, Hongkong, 1st August, 1890.

WINE AND SPIRITS.

BY APPOINTMENT.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LIMITED.

(ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841.)

HONGKONG.

We invite attention to the following old brandy, all of which are of excellent quality and of great value for the money.

The same being specially selected by our London House, and bought direct from the most reliable Shippers, are imported in wood and bottled by ourselves, thus enabling us to supply the best goods at moderate prices.

In ordering it is only necessary to state the name and quantity of Wine or Spirit wanted, and initial letter for quality desired.

Orders through Local Post or by Telegrams prompt attention.

PORTS. (For Invalids and general use.)

Per Doz. Per Bot.

A. Alto Douro, good quality, 10 1.00

B. Green Capote, 12 1.10

C. Fine Old Vintage, Superior quality, Black Seal 14 1.30

D. Very Fine Old Vintage, Extra Superior, Black Seal 14 1.30

E. Superior Old Vintage, Extra Superior, Black Seal 14 1.30

F. Superior Old Vintage, Extra Superior, Black Seal 14 1.30

G. Superior Old Vintage, Extra Superior, Black Seal 14 1.30

H. Superior Old Vintage, Extra Superior, Black Seal 14 1.30

I. Superior Old Vintage, Extra Superior, Black Seal 14 1.30

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conferred by the Chefoo Convention. After quoting the article in the Convention referring to it, they go on to remark: "The wording of the Article is thus perfectly clear, and there are no *prima facie* grounds for disputing it or for placing obstacles in the way of its accomplishment." The objectionists urged were that as the course of the Yangtze in Szechuan is tortuous and full of jagged rocks, if a steamer were to make the voyage the native craft would inevitably be run into and destroyed, while the boatsmen engaged in the traffic being numerous, troubles would be sure to result. These objections were simply puerile. If the steamer had run into native craft through its own negligence or default the owners would have had to bear the cost, but this was in the highest degree unlikely as the ascent would have been made with the utmost deliberation and caution, and exceptional care would naturally have been taken to avoid collisions of any kind with either native craft or boatsmen. Sir JOHN WALSHAM had the cards in his own hand, and he had only to stand on his rights to win.

Supposing, however, that it seemed to the Foreign Office policy not to stand too insistently on those rights, surely Her Majesty's Representative ought to have availed himself of the opportunity to secure compensation for this surrender in some other direction. The desirability of obtaining the right for British merchant steamers to navigate the affluent and upper reaches of the Chukiang has now for some years occupied attention, and the matter has been urged both by the Press, the Chamber of Commerce, and by Sir GEORGE BOWEN, when Governor of Hongkong. The importance of this concession is considerable, and it would have been a fitting offer to the surrender of the right to navigate the Upper Yangtze with steamers. But no, Sir JOHN WALSHAM was either too apathetic or too weak to gain this right for the Queen's subjects; he was quite content to make an unconditional surrender. Opportunity may wait in vain on such a diplomatist. Rumour has it that His Excellency is about to retire. This is surely the best thing that he can do.

The case tried in the Supreme Court last week in which a Chinese schoolmaster sought to recover damages from a Police Constable for illegal arrest and assault possesses some interest from more than one point of view. The facts may be very briefly stated. The constable, accompanied by police officers, went to the plaintiff's house, armed with a warrant, to make a search for illicit opium. The plaintiff was indignantly at having his domicile invaded, and had to be pushed aside in order to allow the police officers to make the search. The opium was found, and as the plaintiff was creating a disturbance and calling out "Ta," he was taken into custody along with his brother, the owner of the opium. After being bailed out, he returned to the Police Station in the middle of the night with his wife, who, he alleged, had been assaulted by the constable. The statement was that the constable had struck her three times in the chest. She was sent to the hospital for examination, and was found to have nothing the matter with her. On the facts of the case as presented in evidence a verdict was given for the defendant, the plaintiff's claim being dismissed with costs. The Judge, in stating his decision, said he did not think the plaintiff in giving his evidence wished to tell an untruth, but he thought he had lost his head altogether over the matter. This strikes us as being a very charitable view to take of the plaintiff's conduct; for the case seems, on a perusal of the evidence, to have been a trumped up one from beginning to end. The plaintiff was no doubt angry at the time the policeman entered his house, and probably thought he had just cause for anger, but that cannot be considered any justification or palliation of his conduct in placing false evidence before the Court after he had had several weeks to recover from his excitement. The tale about his wife being struck three times in the chest is so incredible as to carry its own refutation on the face of it.

The plaintiff is a teacher in a London Mission School, and is or was a deacon of the church. We should think it must be very annoying to the directors of the mission to find one of their schoolboys successfully searched for illicit opium—opium smoking being considered by them essentially immoral—and then to see the sorry figure cut in court by the deacon. Yet we are told by an apologist for the plaintiff in the *China Mail*, in an article which we should be sorry to think inspired, that nothing better should be expected of native Christians. It is undoubtedly the fact that when a Chinaman applies to a European for employment he is not usually considered any special recommendation that he should be himself a Christian; it is not necessarily an objection, but it is so well known that amongst those calling themselves Christians there is a large proportion of "rice-Christians"—who, to use a slang phrase, are about as bad as they make them—that some employers, taking it well to keep clear of native Christians altogether. The cases of persecution have been borne which are from time to time reported from mission stations in the interior show that there must be strong conviction and honesty of purpose in many of the converts, but at the same time, as the converts are perhaps hardly so favourable to honesty. Whether this may be, any Chinaman, whether Christian or pagan, knows that it is wrong to take his wife, up to the Police Station to say she has been struck three times in the chest by a policeman when nothing of the kind has occurred. That any apology for such conduct should have been attempted is indeed remarkable.

The *P. & O. steamer Oriental* left Shanghai for this port on the 16th inst. at 11 a.m.

The Agents (Messrs. Adamson, Bell & Co.) inform us that the *Shire* line steamer *Phinella* left for London, led Singapore for this port on Saturday.

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Our *Kaiser* correspondent writes that the *British* *barque* *Manila* left New York for Hongkong on the 15th inst. at 10 a.m.

The *P. & O. steamer* *Manila* left Hongkong for Shanghai on the 15th inst. at 5 p.m.

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The delivery of the English mail was begun at 5 p.m. yesterday.

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